

friend, was sexually assaulted, strangled and left naked on the side of the California road.

The police in California said that this sick and deranged person may do this terrible act again to another child based on the way he left this poor child's body on the side of the road. They say this may be his calling card. Parents throughout the Nation are both shocked and frightened that this could happen to their child.

Over 2,000 children are reported missing to law enforcement every single day. While Congress focuses on restructuring its homeland security, we must be made aware of the incredible efforts that the FBI and other law enforcement agencies provide in retrieving these children and finding their abductors. We must make sure that these agencies have the manpower and resources necessary to continue these efforts.

To that end, as cochairman of the Congressional Missing and Exploited Caucus, I will work with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LAMPSON), the Committee on the Judiciary and the administration to ensure the work on legislation to increase both criminal and civil penalties for abductors and provide the necessary funding for our law enforcement agencies.

STATE DEPARTMENT NOT HELPING RETRIEVE KIDNAPPED AMERICAN CHILDREN

(Mr. LAMPSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to continue my talks about Ludwig Koons, the 9-year-old little United States citizen who is being held in the country of Italy.

Last week I met with Ambassador Salteo of Italy, and I want to thank the Ambassador from Italy, for he is trying to help this American citizen come back home to the United States where he belongs.

This is more than I can say for our own State Department. Two weeks ago the Washington Post ran a story on the removal of Mary Ryan from her position at the State Department. Ms. Ryan at one time was in charge of the office that handles international abduction of children. I am asking the State Department to look into the handling of that office over the past years, just as they are doing other offices that Ms. Ryan was in charge of.

Jeff and Ludwig Koons, just like thousands of other parents, are not getting concrete help from our State Department. If the State Department does not do something about it, then Congress must. Please help us bring our children home.

CONGRATULATING CAPTAIN JOSEPH NIMMICH AND COAST GUARD GROUP KEY WEST

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Captain Joseph Nimmich and the rest of the men and women of the United States Coast Guard Group Key West for hosting a community outreach event on Trumbo Point in Key West. This event is sponsored by the Navy League Key West and the Key West Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee.

I am very proud to recognize this group, because the work that they do is truly amazing and selfless. In the average month, the men and women of the Coast Guard Group Key West provide the people of Florida with invaluable services. Saving lives, conducting search-and-rescue missions and providing marine exams and aids to navigation are everyday activities for these brave and selfless individuals.

This is a particularly special event, because it also celebrates the Coast Guard's 212th anniversary with the Key West community.

I ask my Congressional colleagues to join me in congratulating and commending Captain Nimmich and his colleagues on this special celebration.

PROVIDING CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY AND REFORM

(Mr. SANDLIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, by now we are all well aware of the recent wave of corporate accounting scandals and the consequent need for systemic reform in this country. Though WorldCom is only one of several high-profile cases of corporate abuse, the sheer size of WorldCom's alleged accounting "error" and the ease with which the company perpetrated this fraud have served as the catalysts for long overdue and much-needed reform.

According to the Wall Street Journal, public pension funds, such as the teacher retirement system in Texas, mutual funds and insurance companies in my home State of Texas, hold approximately \$870 million in WorldCom bonds that are virtually worthless as a result of imminent Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing.

Simply, the type of corporate behavior that has led to WorldCom's meltdown is outrageous. It must end right now.

WorldCom's financial situation, when considered in the context of other recent corporate accounting scandals, raises the troubling question of these scandals' immediate impact on investor confidence, and potentially long-term impact on investors' faith in the integrity of our capital markets.

Access to accurate financial information is essential to the proper functioning of the markets, and as corporate America seems unwilling thus far to enact reasonable financial reforms, Congress must reform the system.

HONORING U.S.-JAPAN MARITIME YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

(Mr. GUTKNECHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material.)

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the U.S.-Japan Maritime Youth Exchange Program. This program brings together high school age students from Japan and the United States for a 3-week program of travel and study in both countries.

It was developed and funded in 1996 through a partnership between the U.S. Navy Memorial Foundation here in Washington and Mr. Kaoru Hasegawa, an unsuccessful World War II Japanese kamikaze pilot and now president of Rengo Company, Limited, in Japan.

Mr. Hasegawa was shot down and then rescued by the crew of the USS *Callaghan* back in World War II. When the survivors of the *Callaghan* invited Mr. Hasegawa to attend their reunion several years ago, it was a very emotional reunion. The desire to share their new-found goodwill and understanding with the next generation of Americans and Japanese led to the creation of the Maritime Youth Exchange Program.

The program's purpose is to teach participants about the historical, cultural and economic factors that impact the two countries' maritime policies and practices. With understanding, respect, teamwork and friendship, the program will work to create a healthy partnership for the future of these two great countries.

Mr. Speaker, I will leave the names of all of the participants, and I congratulate them and wish them the best of luck during their travels.

Mr. Speaker, I include the list of participants for the RECORD.

Adam Meyer of Cary, North Carolina; Titus Wong of Des Plaines, Illinois; Juliet Bintliff of Corpus Christi, Texas; Caroline Toole of Mountain Home, Arkansas; Ashley Thompson of Cincinnati, Ohio; Andrea Claycomb of Euclid, Ohio; Tatsuki Takamashi of Nagano, Japan; Terumi Tabata of Kagoshima, Japan; Shoko Ishigami of Hyogo, Japan; Yuka Sakai of Saitama, Japan; and Akiko Hasebe of Tokyo, Japan.

RAISING CONCERNS ABOUT CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concerns about corporate accountability and its impact on our Nation's economic future.

In the wake of recent corporate bombshells, investor confidence in our financial markets has been badly shaken. Congress cannot afford to wait for reports of another tragic example of corporate deception, followed by more lost jobs and depleted pensions.